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### MCH says \$100,000 is available to explore public policy issues

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#### Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "MCH says \$100,000 is available to explore public policy issues" (1976). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 26835. <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/26835>

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IMMEDIATELY

MCH SAYS \$100,000 IS AVAILABLE  
TO EXPLORE PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES

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MISSOULA--

The Montana Committee for the Humanities (MCH), an organization with home offices at the University of Montana in Missoula, has announced the availability of \$100,000, to be awarded on a competitive basis to groups interested in exploring issues of public policy relating to the theme "Private Rights and Public Choices." The MCH encourages applications for grants from any nonprofit organization or ad hoc committee interested in sponsoring a public program.

Since October a total of 17 grants totaling \$96,000 have been awarded to various Montana groups. Issues considered in these public programs have included Montana's trade and relations with Japan; discussions of the quality of life in a western Montana community; problems of Indian aging; women's changing roles and lifestyles; public choices and individual rights in the use of technology; problems of presidential power, and other issues of concern to Montanans. Newly awarded grants will make possible discussions on foreign ethnic cultural influences in Montana and choices in planning for the use of Montana's water.

The MCH is a nonprofit, educational organization which operates under a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The primary goal of the MCH is to stimulate dialogue between scholars in the humanities and the public on important issues of social concern and public policy.

To be considered for a grant from the MCH, a potential program must involve teachers in the humanities in the planning and implementation, must focus on an issue of public policy, and must create a dialogue between teachers in the humanities, other resource people, and the adult, out-of-school public. In addition, applicants must be able to provide contributions of in-kind services and/or donated cash equal to the amount requested from the MCH.

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Most of the groups now receiving MCH funding had never written grant proposals before. The MCH encourages fresh approaches and new ideas for projects which meet grant criteria. Formats of projects funded in the past have included town meetings, panels and seminars, workshops, series of meetings, and radio and television programs. Grants have ranged in size from \$250 to \$17,000, with the average award near \$5,000.

MCH director, Dr. Margaret Kingsland said, "The Montana Committee for the Humanities welcomes inquiries from interested groups anywhere in Montana, and will be happy to provide assistance with program planning and implementation. The committee particularly encourages applications from groups wishing to sponsor Bicentennial-related discussions."

For application forms, more information and help in preparing a proposal, contact the MCH office, Room 322, Turner Hall, University of Montana, Missoula, Mont. 59801, or phone 243-6022.

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